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Poultry Programs

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Venezuela

Venezuela has a well developed, vertically integrated poultry sector. Production is concentrated in a few large operations, which are able to respond fairly quickly to changes in the economic environment. The Government of Venezuela protects the domestic producers by restricting imports of chicken (including genetics) and raw poultry from countries that have reported incidents of avian influenza in the past, however, production is not subsidized. The industry relies heavily on imported feeds from the U.S. and poultry genetics from EU and some Latin American countries which increases production costs.

Poultry production is driven mainly by domestic demand. Although consumption has more than doubled during the past decade, annual per capita consumption is only estimated at 15 kilograms, one of the lowest among Andean Community countries. The lack of reliable cold-storage facilities keeps inventories in check. Since most producers are vertically integrated they must decide whether to increase inventory space or reduce flocks.

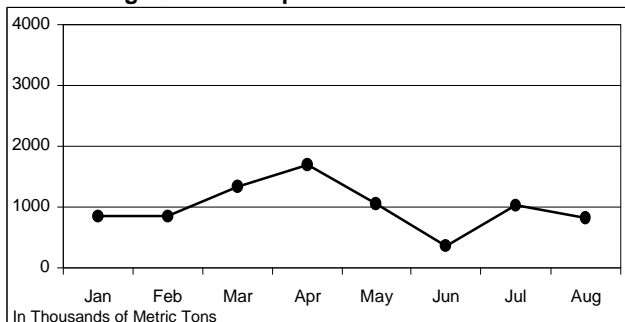
There are no records of poultry exports during 1999 through August. In the past Venezuela exported to neighboring countries, however since early 1998 exports have tapered off due to poor regional economies.

During the past four years the hotel industry in Venezuela has developed with a variety of international hotel chains. Imports of high quality and convenient poultry cuts by the five-star hotels are a possibility and the tendency is to reduce handling by untrained Venezuelan kitchen staff to minimize loss and maintain U.S. style food safety for guests.

There is also a market for turkey and turkey products as Venezuelans are becoming somewhat more aware about health issues and turkey is well liked. The Venezuelan market for sausages, turkey pastrami and turkey hot dogs is expanding rapidly to upper income groups.

Source: USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service, Attache Report

Frozen Leg Quarters Exported From the U.S. to China



Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

Canadian Stance on GMO Products

Canada has filed a number of proposals relating to trade and sustainable development as part of the Ministerial process. These include proposals on the establishment of a WTO Working Party on Biotechnology (WT/GC/W/359). Canada's Biotechnology proposal recommends that "it would be timely for the WTO to engage in a collective exercise aimed at establishing how trade and investment in biotechnology are covered by existing WTO provisions and whether the latter constitute a sufficiently effective regime from the WTO's perspective." Though no formal WTO disputes have yet been launched relating to differing national biotechnology legislation (including that concerning genetically-modified organisms, or GMOs), the issue stands to become a political hot potato should a trade dispute arise between Members who allow GMOs — such as the U.S. and Canada — and those (mostly EU countries) who are hostile to the cultivation and import of certain GMO products.

WTO IN BRIEF

The WTO on 6 October approved the accession of the former Soviet republic of Georgia. Pending approval from Georgia's parliament and a mandatory 30-day waiting period, the country could join the WTO in time for the Third WTO Ministerial in November. Georgia is expected to be the WTO's 136th Member.

Source: BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest

JAPANESE POWDERED EGG IMPORTS (IN TONS)

Month	Powdered			Total
	Whole Eggs	Powdered Yolks	Powdered Albumen	
1998				
January	133.7	192.2	598.4	924.3
February	234.6	220.2	698.0	1152.8
March	296.2	235.4	553.9	1085.5
April	118.9	250.9	786.0	1155.8
May	101.7	169.0	500.1	770.8
June	152.9	187.1	655.6	995.6
July	204.0	211.1	807.2	1222.3
1998 To-Date	1242.0	1465.9	4599.2	7,307.1
1999				
January	200.2	269.1	912.5	1381.8
February	201.6	251.3	566.2	1019.1
March	233.3	121.9	740.6	1095.8
April	249.6	175.8	881.1	1306.5
May	130.9	136.0	874.5	1141.4
June	164.4	53.3	809.7	1027.4
July	209.9	145.1	707.8	1062.8
1999 To-Date	1,389.9	1,152.5	5,492.4	8,034.8

Source: ALIC Monthly Statistics

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Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade
U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending October 16, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	304	271	11,179	12,258
Frozen	0	0	6	50
Dried	40	0	504	537
Total	344	271	11,689	12,845

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending October 16, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	120	81	3,762	3,419
Frozen	42	0	443	172
Dried	0	0	169	235
Total	162	81	4,374	3,826

Inspected Shell Eggs
U.S. Exports To Canada, in 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending October 16, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Jumbo	0	0	1,131	1,295
Extra Large	1,780	0	35,499	29,491
Large	3,901	2,091	118,361	94,064
Medium	900	1,125	40,064	48,094
Ungraded	13,980	19,136	513,143	286,859
Misc	750	0	7,967	6,133
Total	21,311	22,352	716,165	465,936

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 16-OCT-99
 (PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
HEAD	1,683	1,620	3,303
LAST WEEK	1,831	1,652	3,483
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,606	1,293	2,899
TO-DATE/1999	85,576	57,790	143,366
TO-DATE/1998	84,090	51,780	135,870

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
THOUSANDS			
HEAD	353	0	353
LAST WEEK	434	0	434
SAME WEEK YR AGO	270	12	282
TO-DATE/1999	19,075	186	19,261
TO-DATE/1998	21,603	281	21,884

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
THOUSANDS			
HEAD	2,036	1,620	3,656
LAST WEEK	2,265	1,652	3,917
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,876	1,305	3,181
TO-DATE/1999	104,651	57,976	162,627
TO-DATE/1998	105,693	52,061	157,754

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 22-OCT-1999

CHICKEN PRICES

	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
FAT				
CONTENT				
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	16.00-19.00	18.00	13.00-15.00	15.00
WTD AVERAGE	17.50	18.00	14.08	15.00
333,500 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.				
15-20%				
RANGE	16.50-17.00	18.50-19.00	11.00-14.00	13.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	16.57	18.86	11.47	13.79

2,294,800 pounds, this includes 1,305,600 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE

RANGE	15.00	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE	15.00			

204,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 22-OCT-1999

CHICKEN PRICES

	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED	FOB DOCK	DELIVERED
FAT				
CONTENT				
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	16.00-18.00	-	17.00	18.00
WTD AVERAGE	17.15		17.00	18.00
1,437,000 pounds, this includes 320,000 pounds for export shipment.				

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	17.00-17.50	-	17.00
WTD AVERAGE		17.25		17.00
440,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.				
15-20%				
RANGE	14.75-17.00	-	13.00-16.00	13.00-16.50
WTD AVERAGE	16.74		13.19	14.91

1,966,000 pounds, this includes 626,000 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE

RANGE	-	-	13.50	-
WTD AVERAGE			13.50	

200,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT

FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS

OCTOBER 22, 1999

The availability of breast meat surpassed demand and the market continued weak. Thigh meat was sought with limited success, trade sentiment fully steady. Inquiries for parts found a limited supply offered at higher prices. The price spread between tom full cut wings and wing meat encouraged more production of wing meat. One container of tom defatted gizzards moved to port at 78 cents. Limited thigh meat available for export due to packers working against previous commitments, some inquiry noted for frozen mechanically separated turkey with mixed availability. Tom drums moved at higher trending prices.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	26.00		26.00	80	25.13	212
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS	14.00		14.00	40	14.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	20.00-21.00		20.50	416	20.69	476
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	62.00		62.00	156	59.58	1,600

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	24.00		24.00	52
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	22.00	60
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	59.32	1,444

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	25.00		25.00	80
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	22.00		22.00	60
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	59.00-63.00		59.32	1,444

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	20.72	184
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	20.00	104
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	62.50	80

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	20.72	184
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	20.00	104
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	62.50	80

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.

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